

What is claim 1 is:

1. An asynchronous switching mode voltage regulator comprising:

5 an output stage connected between an input voltage and
 a reference potential for generating an output
 voltage, said output stage including a switch
 connected between said input voltage and a phase
10 node, and an unidirectional current-conducting
 device connected between said phase node and
 reference potential;
 a pulse width modulator responsive to said output
 voltage for generating a PWM signal; and
 an adjustable one-shot circuit connected with an
15 adjustable voltage for generating an adjustable
 signal at a light loading to adjust an ON duty of
 said switch.

20 2. The regulator according to claim 1, wherein said
 unidirectional current-conducting device comprises a diode.

 3. The regulator according to claim 1, wherein said
 adjustable one-shot circuit comprises:
 a charger;
25 a flip-flop connected with said PWM signal for generating

said adjustable signal to control said charger to be
charged and discharged;
a charging current generator connected with said input
voltage and adjustable voltage for providing a
charging current to charge said charger to thereby
generate a charger output; and
a comparator for comparing said charger output with a
reference voltage to generate a reset signal to reset
said flip-flop.

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4. The regulator according to claim 3, wherein said
charging current generator comprises:

a current source connected with said input voltage for
generating a first current;
a current mirror having a reference branch connected
with said first current and a mirror branch for
generating a mirrored current by mirroring said
first current; and
a current sink connected with said mirror branch and
adjustable voltage for separating a second current
from said mirrored current to thereby determine
said charging current.

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5. The regulator according to claim 4, wherein said first
current is proportional to said input voltage.

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6. The regulator according to claim 4, wherein said second current is proportional to said adjustable voltage.

5 7. The regulator according to claim 1, wherein said adjustable voltage is proportional to said output voltage.

10 8. A method for efficiency improvement of an asynchronous switching mode voltage regulator including an output stage connected between an input voltage and a reference potential for generating an output voltage, said output stage having a switch connected between said input voltage and a phase node, and an unidirectional current-conducting device connected between said phase node and reference potential, and a pulse width modulator responsive to said output voltage for generating a PWM signal, said method comprising the steps of:

15 generating an adjustable signal upon an adjustable voltage at a light loading; and
20 adjusting an ON duty of said switch by said adjustable signal.

 9. The method according to claim 8, wherein said step of generating an adjustable signal comprises the steps of:

25 triggering a flip-flop to generate a flip-flop output by said PWM signal;

generating said adjustable signal in response to said
flip-flop output;
generating a charging current;
charging a charger by said charging current and
5 discharging said charger under control of said
flip-flop output to thereby generate a charger
output; and
comparing said charger output with a reference voltage
to generate a reset signal to reset said flip-flop.

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10. The method according to claim 9, wherein said step
of generating a charging current comprises the steps of:

generating a first current proportional to said input
voltage;

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generating a mirrored current by mirroring said first
current; and

separating a second current proportional to said
adjustable voltage from said mirrored current for
determining said charging current.

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11. The method according to claim 8, further comprising
controlling said adjustable voltage proportional to said output
voltage.

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12. A synchronous switching mode voltage regulator

comprising:

- an output stage connected between an input voltage and a reference potential for generating an output voltage, said output stage including a high-side switch connected between said input voltage and a phase node, and a low-side switch connected between said phase node and reference potential;
- a pulse width modulator responsive to said output voltage for generating a PWM signal;
- a phase detector for detecting a voltage on said phase node to generate a detection signal to block said low-side switch at a light loading;
- an adjustable one-shot circuit connected with an adjustable voltage for generating an adjustable signal by triggered by said detection signal;
- a control signal responsive to said adjustable signal for adjusting an ON duty of said high-side switch at said light loading; and
- an OFF duty detector for resetting said phase detector when said regulator escapes from said light loading.

13. The regulator according to claim 12, wherein said phase detector comprises:

- a comparator for comparing said voltage on said phase node and reference potential to generate a

comparison signal; and
a flip-flop responsive to said control signal and
comparison signal for generating said detection
signal.

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14. The regulator according to claim 12, wherein said
adjustable one-shot circuit comprises:

a charger;

10 a flip-flop connected with said PWM signal for generating
said adjustable signal to control said charger to be
charged and discharged;

15 a charging current generator connected with said input
voltage and adjustable voltage for providing a
charging current to charge said charger to thereby
generate a charger output; and

a comparator for comparing said charger output with a
reference voltage to generate a reset signal to reset
said flip-flop.

20 15. The regulator according to claim 14, wherein said
charging current generator comprises:

a current source connected with said input voltage for
generating a first current;

25 a current mirror having a reference branch connected
with said first current and a mirror branch for

generating a mirrored current by mirroring said
first current; and
a current sink connected with said mirror branch and
adjustable voltage for separating a second current
5 from said mirrored current to thereby determine
said charging current.

16. The regulator according to claim 15, wherein said
first current is proportional to said input voltage.

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17. The regulator according to claim 15, wherein said
second current is proportional to said adjustable voltage.

18. The regulator according to claim 12, wherein said
15 OFF duty detector comprises:

a next clock generator for generating a next clock signal
by delaying said control signal; and
a reset signal resulted from said control signal and next
clock signal for resetting said phase detector.

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19. The regulator according to claim 18, wherein said
next clock generator comprises:

a first flip-flop connected with said control signal for
generating a first signal;
25 a second flip-flop connected with a clock signal and said

first signal for generating said next clock signal;
and
an AND gate connected with said next clock signal and
an inverse of said clock signal for generating said
5 reset signal to reset said first and second flip-flops.

20. A method for efficiency improvement of a
synchronous switching mode voltage regulator including an output
stage connected between an input voltage and a reference potential
10 for generating an output voltage, said output stage having a
high-side switch connected between said input voltage and a phase
node, and a low-side switch connected between said phase node
and reference potential, and a pulse width modulator responsive to
said output voltage for generating a PWM signal, said method
15 comprising the steps of:

detecting a voltage on said phase node for generating a
detection signal to block said low-side switch at a
light loading;
generating an adjustable signal upon said detection
20 signal and an adjustable voltage;
generating a control signal in response to said
adjustable signal for adjusting an ON duty of said
high-side switch at said light loading; and
generating a reset signal for resetting said detection
25 signal when said regulator escapes from said light

loading.

21. The method according to claim 20, wherein said step of generating an adjustable signal comprises the steps of:

- 5 triggering a flip-flop to generate a flip-flop output by said PWM signal;
- generating said adjustable signal in response to said flip-flop output;
- generating a charging current;
- 10 charging a charger by said charging current and discharging said charger under control of said flip-flop output to thereby generate a charger output; and
- comparing said charger output with a reference voltage
- 15 for generating said reset signal to reset said flip-flop.

22. The method according to claim 21, wherein said step of generating a charging current comprises the steps of:

- 20 generating a first current proportional to said input voltage;
- generating a mirrored current by mirroring said first current; and
- separating a second current proportional to said
- 25 adjustable voltage from said mirrored current for

determining said charging current.

23. The method according to claim 20, further
comprising controlling said adjustable voltage proportional to said
5 output voltage.

24. The method according to claim 20, wherein said step
of generating a reset signal comprises the steps of:

generating a next clock signal by delaying said control
10 signal; and
generating said reset signal upon said control signal and
next clock signal.